

PRICE

10 CENTS.

DESCRIPTIVE PAMPHLET

OF

KNOX COUNTY, NEB.

WITH ACCURATE MAP.

NIORARA, NEBRASKA.
SANTÉE & HILL.
MARCH, 1883.

Knox County News Print.



THE OLDEST NEWSPAPER IN THE COUNTY.

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B L I S H E D 1879

THE

"KNOX CO. NEWS,"

Niobrara, Nebraska,

IS AN 8-PAGE 48-COLUMN STRAIGHT REPUBLICAN
JOURNAL, PUBLISHED IN THE INTEREST OF THE
TAX-PAYERS OF KNOX COUNTY, AND IS THE
OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE TOWN, COUNTY
AND UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE.

SANTEE & HILL, PUBLISHERS.

\$1.50 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE.

SEND FOR SAMPLE COPIES.

DESCRIPTIVE PAMPHLET

—OF—

KNOX CO., NEB.

Knox county is situated in the northeastern part of Nebraska, and is bounded on the north by the Missouri river, east by range line between ranges 1 and 2 west, south by the township line between townships 28 and 29 north, and on the west by range line between ranges 8 and 9 west.

The census of 1880 showed a population of 3,666 souls, which is now more than doubled.

WATER.

The county is well watered by numerous small streams emptying into the Missouri, Niobrara and Elkhorn rivers, the largest of these streams being the Bazile and Verdigris creeks, which find an outlet in the two rivers first above named. The water throughout the county is of the best quality, there being no alkali deposits in this portion of the state; in fact no county in Nebraska can boast of a better quality or a greater abundance than our own county of Knox.

SOIL.

The soil is generally of a dark sandy loam, averaging about four feet in depth, although in the valleys along the Missouri river it is much deeper, while on the bluffs more or less clay exists. Beneath the soil is found a stratum of porous clay, beneath this a stratum of sand, and be-

neath this a layer of chalk-rock. The depth of the clay varies somewhat, but the average depth is from fifteen to twenty feet. Thus it will be readily seen that the soil of Knox county is particularly adapted to agriculture: there being sufficient sand to absorb the water during heavy rains, while the layer of sand just above the chalk-rock is filled with numerous springs and veins, which furnishes sufficient moisture to the soil when the rain-fall is light.

GEOLOGICAL FORMATION.

A species of soft stone, known as chalk-rock probably underlies the entire county. The bluffs along the Missouri and Niobrara rivers are mostly composed of this rock, while in other portions of the county it is found at from twenty to thirty feet below the surface. Probably the average thickness of this layer of rock throughout the county is two hundred feet. In the southern portion of the county a strata of hard-stone appears, which probably underlies the chalk-rock. A few ledges of limestone also exists in different parts of the county. A large number of granite bowlders are found scattered on the bluffs, and in some places on the open prairie. These were probably drifted here from the mountains of the north and west during the glacial period. Iron-ore is also found in several of the highest bluffs, but usually in small quantities. Numerous small veins of coal have been discovered, but the amount of the deposit is, as yet, comparatively unknown.

CATTLE PRODUCTS.

The soil of Knox county is particularly adapted to raising corn, oats, barley, rye, flax and other small grain. Wheat is not a sure crop, and as a consequence our farmers are turning their attention more particularly to raising corn, which yields as bountifully as in any portion of the great corn producing belt of the United States. It is not uncommon to raise from 80 to 100 bushels per acre on "old ground" (land that has been under cultivation for a dozen years) without the use of any fertilizer whatever, while on raw prairie from 25 to 50 bushels can be grown. The cost of raising corn is comparatively trifling, as few of our farmers cultivate their corn more than once or twice. Oats, barley, rye, flax, etc., grow as well and yield as abundantly as in any place in the country. All kinds of vegetables and roots are successfully raised. Cabbages weighing 40 pounds, beets 30 pounds, carrots 10 pounds, squashes 125 pounds, onions 5 pounds, and potatoes 2 to 5 pounds are not only often raised here, but are grown with absolutely no labor, save preparing the ground and planting the seed. Wild fruits consisting of a variety of plums, grapes, crab-apples, cherries, currants, gooseberries, etc., are found in great abundance and of excellent quality. Tame fruits, wherever tested, have been grown with entire success.

TIMBER.

Although this is pre-eminently a prairie country, there is sufficient timber to last for years, if it is protected from fire. It is found on the islands and bottom lands of the Missouri and Niobrara rivers, along the Bayle and Verdigris creeks and their numerous branches, and in the ravines and canyons which exist in some parts of the county.

Nearly all the timber on the islands and bottoms of the rivers is "cotton-wood." Much of this is of good quality, and is in great demand for building purposes. There is also a large body of excellent timber in the eastern part of the county. A large quantity of Oak and Black Walnut is found along the smaller streams. Cord-wood, delivered in the towns, sells for \$3 to \$5 per cord.

THE CLIMATE.

The climate of this portion of Nebraska is far preferable to that in the same latitude farther east. This is mostly due to our periodic rainfall. It seldom rains here between October and March, thus giving us dry, pure air during the cold season. The damp, chilly atmosphere of the country east of the Mississippi valley is unknown to this section of Nebraska. The weather during the summer months is not extraordinarily heated, as we are visited by cool breezes from the north. The winters are not long, usually, and the fall of snow is generally light.

THE INDIAN RESERVE.

116,000 acres of the best portion of Knox county, bordering on the Missouri river, has heretofore been occupied by a small band of Indians, known as the Santee Sioux, numbering about 500 souls, but, owing to the untiring efforts of our delegation in Washington, this tract of land will soon be opened for settlement under the homestead laws. [See map.]

GOVERNMENT LANDS.

With the opening of the Santee reserve in Knox county and the Ponca reserve which has recently been annexed to Nebraska, and borders this county on the north, about 716,000 acres of fine farming land will be placed on the market for settlement. There are also several fine claims yet vacant in Knox county, and can be filed on at a cost of \$14.00 for 160 acres, and a small additional fee at the time of making final proof. The land that has been taken is occupied by thrifty and enterprising farmers, except a few square miles in the eastern portion of the county, which is owned by speculators. Deeded land is sold at from \$5.00 to \$50.00 per acre, according to the amount of improvements thereon.

HOW TO REACH HERE.

The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway is the most direct route for parties from the east to take. This road is completed to a point on the north bank of the Missouri river, and connects by ferry with Niobrara in the northern part of the county. The Sioux City & Pacific railway is completed to Creighton in the southern part of the county, and is the most direct route from the south. Stage lines leading to all parts of the county connect daily with these roads.

DESCRIPTIVE PAMPHLET

— OF —

KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA.

NIORARA.

Niobrara, the political and commercial capital of Knox county, is located at the confluence of the Niobrara and Missouri rivers in the northern part of the county.

The first settlement at Niobrara was attempted by a body of Mormons in 1845, previous to establishing winter quarters at Florence, near Omaha, but the hostility of the Indian tribes compelled them to abandon the beautiful and picturesque location. Traces of the settlement remained for many years. In May, 1856, Dr. B. Y. Shelly and R. R. Cowan, of Council Bluffs, Iowa, set out to explore the country, and to select a townsite on the upper Missouri. After a toilsome journey they viewed the beautiful plateau at the mouth of the Niobrara river, and on the 7th day of June, 1856, marked their claim for a townsite in presence of the entire tribe of Ponca Indians. From that date Niobrara became known in the history of the country.

In September of the same year the first building was erected, known as the "old cabin." Subsequently the L'Eau-qui-court Town Company was organized, composed of active, energetic men, who commanded abundant means, and improvements were being rapidly made, but late in the fall of 1856, the Indians burned all the buildings except the "old cabin," where the old settlers had retreated for safety. During the winter the town company was incorporated, and the county seat was located at Niobrara by act of the Territorial Legislature. In the summer of 1857, a \$10,000 hotel was erected, a saw mill started and a postoffice established with Dr. B. Y. Shelly as postmaster; a store opened and everything indicated prosperity and a brilliant future for the town, when the surrounding country was settled. For a year or two the village was prosperous and the population increased until 1859, when the company failed.

During the next year the "Niobrara town company" was formed by Walter M. Barnum, C. G. Benner and others. The breaking out of the

rebellion, and the Minnesota massacre, retarded the growth of the place and the settlement of this part of the state. The place, however, made substantial growth, and in 1878 the C., M. & St. P. R. R. was completed to the opposite bank of the river, and a steam ferry established, and it thus became the shipping point for a large territory including Holt, Antelope, Pierce and Knox counties. It was incorporated Nov. 8, 1878. The U. S. Land Office was located at Niobrara October 1st, 1875, and still remains.

The first newspaper was established in 1874—the *Niobrara Pioneer*, now published at Creighton. In May, 1879, the *Knox County News* was established and still continues to send its weekly budget of "news" to a large number of families in Knox and neighboring counties.

Niobrara had grown to be one of the most flourishing towns on the Missouri until, in 1881, it suffered with the rest from the great flood. This flood, though not as severe as at other points on the river, resulted in a very considerable loss of property. The citizens, to render themselves secure from the ravages of future overflows, removed the town to its present location, two miles west of the old site, to a beautiful plateau, near the bluffs, and about twenty feet higher than the former townsite. The lands which are tributary to the place are as fertile as any to be found in the west. The Santee Sioux have a reservation to the east, of which about 100,000 acres will soon be thrown open to settlement. These reservations, as is usual, contain very fine land, the finest in this part of the state. The lands to the south are somewhat rolling, but are well settled and produce yearly good crops.

Among those who commenced farming in this vicinity with small capital, and who, with all that have been careful and industrious have succeeded in amassing a competence, are T. G. Hullihen, Wm. Lamont, Carl Witte, Jos. Sedivy, William Freese, Jos. Krupicka and others.

The first school was taught in 1871 by J. H. Billings, and from that time Niobrara had better schools than most towns in this part of the state. In 1882, the citizens, not content with their school advantages, decided to establish a graded school and place it on the most liberal footing possible. As a consequence of that decision, Mr. H. L. McGinitie, a teacher of a large experience in graded schools, was employed and placed in charge of the schools with authority to organize the schools anew, and given as assistants two ladies of experience, Miss Weber, of Wisconsin, and Miss Cooley. The schools have been brought from the usual condition of village schools, to a higher plane and is rapidly becoming what the citizens planned—a graded school. The buildings are not what they should be, but are comfortable and are in advance of those in similar towns in the west. The schools have been so successful under the new regime, that a large number of non-resident pupils are in attendance in each of the departments.

Niobrara is the most central location in northern Nebraska and can be reached from all points of the compass either by rail or stage. The following stage lines leave Niobrara: Daily stage to Creighton, arrives at 12 m. and leaves at 1:30 p. m.; tri-weekly stage to Yankton, Dak., arrives Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 5 p. m., and leaves Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays at 7 a. m.; tri-weekly stage to Keya Paha 80 miles west, on the Niobrara river, arrives Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 5 p. m. and leaves Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 7 a. m.; tri-weekly stage to Oakdale leaves Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 1 p. m. arrives Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays at 3 p. m.

There are two religious organizations, and each have a comfortable house of worship. The Presbyterian church was organized by Rev. Geo. Williams, Nov. 12, 1880, with sixteen members, and the church building

was erected in the spring of 1882, at a cost of about \$2,500. It is of handsome architecture, beautifully finished, and surmounted by a finely-proportioned steeple, containing a large, sweet-toned bell. Rev. Geo. Williams still remains pastor of the church.

The M. E. Church was organized in 1878 with 10 members, by Rev. W. H. Porter, who was the first regular minister. In 1880, the church building was erected at a cost of about \$1,500. It was moved to the new location of Niobrara in 1881. It is a neat and comfortable building and is well finished. Rev. C. E. Withrow is the present pastor.

SOCIETIES.

MASONIC.—Ionic Lodge, U. D. A. F. and A. M. Regular communications every Saturday on, or before full moon of each month. Specials every Saturday evening.

I. O. O. F.—Niobrara Lodge, No. 82. Meets every Monday evening.

GRAND ARMY OF REPUBLIC.—Lander Post No. 125 meets first Wednesday of each month.

NIORBARA BUSINESS HOUSES.

NIORBARA VALLEY BANK.—Sol. Deader, Cashier; established in 1880; transacts a general banking business; is a solid institution; commands all the capital needed to accommodate the business of the country.

GENERAL MERCHANDISE.—Bonesteel & Turner; established in 1879; the largest and most complete establishment in northern Nebraska with numerous branches, the largest being located at Springfield, Dakota, under the supervision of J. L. Turner, the junior member of the firm, the Niobrara house being under the personal supervision of the senior member of the firm, Henry E. Bonesteel. The firm are active, energetic business men, and carry an immense stock of merchandise. G. F. Clough carries a select stock of general merchandise; does a strictly cash business and has a good trade; is noted for fair dealing. Fine groceries a specialty.

DRUGS, ETC.—Kadish Bros. This firm have the largest and best arranged drug store in northern Nebraska. Everything is of the best and is tastily displayed. Mr. K. is a graduate of the Philadelphia school of Pharmacy, and is one of the most careful and competent druggists in the state. This firm also have a large cattle ranch and creamery 10 miles west of town and deal in fine stock and are active, energetic business men. The senior member of the firm, Chas. J. Kadish, is county Treasurer of Knox county. J. C. Thomas also deals in drugs, medicines and fine groceries and has a branch store at Apple Creek, Holt Co.

LUMBER, ETC.—Wilcox Lumber Co., general dealers in lumber, bath shingles, lime, hair, cement, soft and hard coal, also buyers and shippers of grain. This large establishment is but one of the numerous establishments owned by the same firm. It is a well known fact that Niobrara is the cheapest lumber market in Northern Nebraska. This firm is noted for fair square dealing. Geo. W. Douglas, successor to Chicago Lumber Co., carries a large stock of lumber and building material of every description; has had several years's experience, is a close buyer and has a good trade.

FURNITURE.—C. Stein carries a large and select stock of furniture of every grade and sells at eastern prices. It does not pay to transport furniture several hundred miles west. Every description of household furniture can be purchased at Stein's at bottom prices. Furniture made and repaired to order; has a large and growing trade.

LIVERY AND STAGE LINE.—I. B. Miller, Prop. Is equal to any in the country; is proprietor of Niobrara and Creighton stage line; makes close connections with trains on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, also the Sioux City & Pacific railroad at Creighton. Express

and passengers carried at reasonable prices. Special rates given to those looking for homes in Knox county.

LIVERY, FEED AND SALE STABLE.—H. D. Palen, Prop., is a first-class establishment in every respect. Good rigs and careful drivers can be had on reasonable terms.

HARNESS MAKER.—E. D. Gorton is a first-class workman, keeps none but the best stock, does repairing with neatness and dispatch. Fine work a specialty.

BLACKSMITH.—R. Bollman attends to the wants of Niobrara and surrounding country; has a first-class establishment; wagon repairing promptly attended to. All kinds of farm machinery repaired in first-class style.

HARDWARE.—Bonesteel & Co., carry a complete stock and have a lucrative business. Tin-shop in connection.

BOOKS AND STATIONERY.—J. C. Santee carries a full assortment at bottom prices.

TONSorial ARTISTS.—W. H. Claiborne and J. C. Laughlin attend to all business in this line, and are good workmen.

WINES, LIQUORS AND CIGARS.—Henry Storm, John Mitchell and J. F. Lenger attend to the wants of the people in this line, and run orderly houses.

HOTELS.—Draper House, C. G. Whipple, proprietor; Hubbard House, A. L. Towle, proprietor. These houses are first-class in every respect, and are doing a good business.

MILLINERY AND DRESSMAKING.—Mrs. Eakins & Paxton keep a fine stock of millinery goods, and are enjoying a lucrative trade.

PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS.—V. N. Swin and J. L. F. Quinten have resided in Niobrara for several years, and are first-class physicians in every respect.

NEWSPAPER AND JOB PRINTING OFFICE.—Santee & Hill, publishers of *Knox County News*. Job Printing and stereotyping a specialty.

MEAT MARKET.—B. Bade keeps on hand a large quantity of fresh and salt meats. All kinds of games in season.

MERCHANT TAILOR.—E. Schostag is a first-class workman, and keeps a large assortment of various kinds of cloth.

PHOTOGRAPHY.—W. R. Cross has a fine gallery, and is a first-class workman.

GROCERIES.—William Lamont keeps on hand a good assortment of fresh groceries which he sells at bottom prices.

The canning establishment of R. A. Hindman & Co., west of town is also one of the growing industries of Niobrara. 18,000 cases of tomatoes were put up last season, and are pronounced by competent judges to be superior to any in market.

As will be seen the various kinds of business are well represented in Niobrara. The needs of the town are, first, a grist mill. The advantages of Niobrara as a shipping point are readily seen by a glance at the map. The large area of territory adapted to small grain that is tributary to Niobrara, make it one of the most desirable locations in Northern Nebraska for a good grist mill. A first-class water-power can be obtained on the Verdigris, or a water-power equal to the famous Sioux Falls power can be obtained on the Niobrara river just west of town.

Second, a creamery would be a paying enterprise, and would receive all the encouragement desired. An abundance of hay and grazing land are convenient to town, and milk and cream can be obtained in large quantities from the farmers in the country adjacent to the village.

A good jeweler and watchmaker would also find plenty of business and could build up a trade.

JACKSON'S RANCH.

Jackson's Ranch is situated on the Creighton and Niobrara mail road about seven miles northwest of Bazile Mills on the high rolling prairie on the divide between the Verdigris and Bazile Creeks. Mr. Oliver Jackson settled there with his family in May 1880 with the idea that the rough lands to the east and west would remain vacant for years and that he would have an unlimited range for stock, but so rapid has the advance of immigration been, and the productive quality of the soil become known, that but little of the roughest land is still unentered. The first year he planted fifty acres of corn besides an experimental garden. The corn he cut and stacked for fodder, and the second year he tried flax on twenty acres of breaking, and corn, oats, barley, and wheat on the land broken the year before; his crops were fair for new land. The third year he planted 100 acres of corn and has about 3,500 bushels. He has experimented and had success with broom corn, roots and vines of all kinds; of mangel wurzels he raised in 1881, 900 bushels on less than two acres; from half an acre of cucumbers planted among hills of amber cane, he gathered seven barrels of pickles; he has raised thousands of pumpkins and melons, and quantities of carrots, turnips, etc. Last year he raised seven hundred bushels of the finest potatoes from four acres, and he is satisfied that after the second year, any crop that thrives in this latitude in the east will do well here. In 1882 he set out an asparagus bed, half an acre of strawberries, two acres of orchard, a mile of white willow cuttings for a hedge and transplanted a large number of evergreen and forest trees.

His business, however, is stock-raising. He has a fine herd of Durham cattle and Jersey and grade heifers, also several with registered pedigrees. He has two fine stallions, Norman and English Coach, and a number of excellent brood mares. His stock of horses and colts at present numbers twenty-seven. After the first year his success with sheep was all he could desire, having paid him in 1882, \$4.75 per head in wool and lambs.

He has also had success with hogs, not one having died from disease. He now has about one hundred head, principally Berkshires and Chester Whites. In stock-breeding he adheres strictly to the principle of using only thorough-bred males.

His improvements consist of a comfortable two-story house, with stone cellar 20x30, a large frame barn on the side hill with cellar barn, a cattle shed let into the side of the hill 32x150, fitted with stanchions and box stalls, a corn-crib and granary 36x48 with drive-way in center, inclosing a stock and wagon scale. This drive-way and loft is also used for storage of wagons, implements, seeds, and for drying broom corn. There is also an implement shed 16x40, an ice house, tool house and blacksmith shop, a milkhouse with Cooley creamer and cellar, a lodging house for hired men, chicken houses, pig pens, a pig pasture of ten acres, and a pasture of four hundred acres with half a mile of creek inclosed in a three wire fence.

The water question has further been settled by boring a well on a hill-top 28 feet above all the buildings, and there digging a reservoir or cistern with a capacity of 800 barrels. The water is pumped by wind-mill into the reservoir, and from there distributed in galvanized iron pipes to the barn, cattle sheds, hog pens, etc.

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LIGHT AND DARK BRAHMAS, PARTRIDGE, BUFF AND BLACK
COCHINS, AND PLYMOUTH ROCKS.

Eggs in season at \$2.00 per 13. Cash must accompany order.

Also owner of the celebrated French Stallion, **PRINCE NAPOLEON, SECOND,**
which all farmers wishing to improve their stock would do well to patronize.

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SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO CASES BEFORE THE
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Improved and Wild Lands in Nebraska and Dakota for sale.

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CONNECTS AT NIOBRARA WITH CHICAGO, MILWAUKEE AND ST.
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FIRST-CLASS LIVERY
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COMPLETE SET OF ABSTRACTS, AND CORRECT MAP SHOWING
LOCATION AND QUALITY OF EVERY

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Will buy and sell Promissory Notes and Mortgages, and all kinds of Negotiable Papers, County and School District Warrants, Bonds, etc., etc.

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WAGONS, FARMING IMPLEMENTS, ETC., ETC.

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THOROUGHbred STOCK FOR BREEDING PURPOSES.

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J. W. PERKINS
Attorney and Notary

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ALSO WILL DO A GENERAL

Land Office & Collection Business

WILL PAY TAXES FOR NON-RESIDENTS, AND DO A
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WE HAVE 85,000 ACRES OF LAND FOR SALE IN KNOX AND AD-
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PROVED LANDS; ALSO A NUMBER OF HOUSES AND LOTS
FOR SALE AND RENT IN CREIGHTON AND NIOBRARA.

ALSO

\$25,000.00 TO LOAN ON IMPROVED FARMS IN KNOX AND ADJOIN-
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10 PER CENT. PER ANNUM AND NO COMMISSION.

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*This is one of the oldest firms in Knox County, and is compe-
tent and reliable.*

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SCHOOL BOOKS AND STATIONERY,

PAINTS, OILS, GLASS, TOILET ARTICLES, ETC.

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Harness, Saddles, Bridles, Blankets,

FLY-NETS, WHIPS, CURRY-COMBS & BRUSHES.

First door west of Bank,

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ALL WORK WARRANTED.

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Palace Barber Shop.

W. H. CLAIBORNE, Prop'r,

NIOBRARA,

:

:

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NEBRASKA.

SWITCHES MADE TO ORDER.

BATH ROOM IN CONNECTION.

BONESTEEL & TURNER,
DEALERS IN

GENERAL MERCHANDISE,

NIOBRARA, NEBRASKA.



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E. SCHOSTAG,



MERCHANT TAILOR,



NIOBRARA, : : : NEBRASKA.



SUITS MADE TO ORDER.

WILCOX LUMBER COMPANY,

Niobrara, : : : Nebraska.

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AND ALL KINDS OF

BUILDING MATERIAL, WAGONS, &C.



**THE LARGEST ASSORTMENT IN
NORTHERN NEBRASKA.**

HENRY STORM,

DEALER IN

CHOICE WINES, LIQUORS & CIGARS,

Niobrara, : Nebraska.



BILLIARD AND POOL TABLES.

CHARLES COOLEY,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,

COUNTY JUDGE,

NIOBRARA, : : NEBRASKA.

COLLECTIONS A SPECIALTY.

NIOBRARA VALLEY BANK

Niobrara, : Nebraska.

DO A GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS.

PAY TAXES FOR NON-RESIDENTS.



Collections a Specialty.

S. DRAPER, CASHIER.

Livery and Feed Stable,

NIOBRARA, NEBRASKA.

H. D. Palen, Proprietor.

FIRST-CLASS RIGS.


CHARGES REASONABLE.



DESCRIPTIVE PAMPHLET

—OF—

KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA.



CREIGHTON.

In the month of October, 1870, a party of men composed of Geo. W. and D. J. Quimby, S. D. Brooks, C. G. Benner, Jr., Stillman Benner, Robert Grant, G. W. and Watson Sawyer, S. Zeff, S. L. Paxton and others started out from Niobrara with the intention of locating a colony or settlement in the southern part of Knox county or elsewhere as they might determine.

After looking over the district now comprising Creighton precinct, the party started for the Elkhorn river country. The party, however, got only as far as a prominent hill on section 35, town 29, range 6 west, at which point a council was held, and it was decided that "that was a good enough country," and returned and located the town of Mansfield on section 9, town 29, range 5 west.

The first claim filed on by an actual settler, was on section 21, town 29, range 5 west, by G. W. Quimby. On the 1st day of January, 1871, Geo. W. Quimby completed the first house in the precinct, and the following day was joined by his family, Mrs. Q. being the first white woman in the settlement.

At this time there was neither habitation nor road between the Niobrara and Elkhorn rivers, and it could well be imagined a wild country. Mr. Zeff was the only one of the Mansfield colony who accompanied Mr. Q., and he being a bachelor society was not very extensive. The winter of '70-'71 proved an exceptional fine one.

On the 16th of April, 1871, the Bruce colony from Omaha arrived in the precinct and proceeded immediately to locate the present town of Creighton. Inasmuch as the Mansfield colony failed to respond and the

Bruce colony being present in force, it was decided to abandon the town of Mansfield which was done.

The village of Creighton, as will be seen by reference to the county map, is located on sections 21 and 28, of town 29, north of range 5 west, and is in the southern central part of the county. It will further be seen that Creighton is the terminus of one branch of the Sioux City & Pacific railroad.

From its founding up to the summer of 1881, Creighton was only a country place with a postoffice, a store and some of the time a few shops, etc. In the latter part of June, 1881, the Sioux City and Pacific railroad reached Creighton. This gave the town what in western parlance is called a "boom."

Last year the Congregational society erected a fine edifice, which is every Sunday thronged with people from the village and surrounding country. Rev. Sparrow is the present pastor.

Among the enterprises which would pay here that are not represented, we would name first, a grist mill as there is as fine water power here (the Bazile creek) as could be desired, and, second, a creamery would do a good business. But, notwithstanding, business is good and all seem to be making money.

What we recommend the country in the vicinity of Creighton for is agriculture and stock-raising purposes and homes for those who are living on small or rented farms or in the crowded towns and cities of the east. The land surrounding Creighton produces wheat, corn, oats, rye, barley and vegetables in abundance, also it is unsurpassed for hay and grazing purposes.

Improved land can be bought from six to ten dollars per acre, unimproved at from four to six dollars per acre, while homestead, pre-emption and timber claims can be bought at from three hundred to eight hundred dollars per one hundred and sixty acres with more or less improvements.

Creighton can be reached by railroad from the following points on the Missouri river: From Omaha to Creighton 165 miles; from Missouri Valley to Creighton 155 miles; from Sioux City to Creighton 117 miles.

To sum up, Creighton is a lively, energetic booming town located in the center of one of the richest agricultural regions in Nebraska. Property of every description is rapidly increasing in value. Farms have nearly doubled in value during the past year, and to-day good locations can be purchased for 50 per cent. less than in localities not possessing half the advantages of soil, climate, transportation, etc., a few hundred miles east.

CREIGHTON BUSINESS HOUSES.

REAL ESTATE.—Elias Underwood & Co. This firm has done a fine business during the past year; has sold several thousand acres of land to settlers and a large amount of village property, and has a fair share of legal business. In all their transactions they have given entire satisfaction to their patrons, are reliable and trustworthy. Barber, Fannon & Perkins. This new firm has been recently established and is composed of gentlemen who possess the entire confidence of the people where best known. Mr. Barber is editor of the *Creighton Pioneer*, also a first-class civil engineer, has done a large amount of work in the county during the past two years and given entire satisfaction, understands the real estate business thoroughly. Mr. Fannon is an experienced abstractor and carefully examines the titles of all real estate handled by the

firm. Hon. J. W. Perkins, junior member of the firm, served one term in the state senate, also one term as county judge of Dodge county, is a first-class attorney and counsellor, and has a good practice in the different courts. All business entrusted to this firm will be promptly attended to. Rice & Williams. This firm has done a lucrative business during the past year. Mr. Rice is a young attorney of ability and has made a first-class record as an attorney and business man during his two years residence in the county. Mr. Williamson is the postmaster at Creighton and is known and respected as one of the most reliable business men in the village. Any legal or real estate business entrusted to this firm will receive prompt attention. Geo. W. Quimby & Co. Mr. Q. is one of the original settlers of Creighton, is a first-class civil engineer, is thoroughly acquainted with the country, has had a large and varied experience in the business; has surveyed several townsites and located hundreds of claims for settlers.

LUMBER.—The Chicago Lumber Yard, Holbrook & Frees, proprietors, carry a full and complete stock of lumber, lath, lime, etc., in fact, everything in the line of building material; also agents for Wyoming coal. They have a large and increasing trade; are noted for fair dealing. Wilcox Lumber Co., F. K. Berry, agent. This firm is the largest and most extensive in the northwest. They have large establishments at Yankton, Niobrara, O'Neill City and Atkinson; purchase direct from the mills in immense quantities, hence can sell at bottom prices. Lath, lumber, building material of every description, nails, coal, etc., are handled by this firm. They employ none but first-class men, and conduct their business on strict business principles; have one price and that is the lowest for all their customers; they buy and sell grain, etc.

GENERAL MERCHANDISE.—J. J. Philbrick carries a large and select stock of general merchandise, is a careful business man, buys for cash and gives his customers the benefit of his long experience as a close cash purchaser, has a good trade and is constantly adding to his stock. Fair, square dealing is his motto. McClintock & Wilson. This firm of active, energetic young business men are doing a first-class business, carry a full line of general merchandise. Boots, shoes and gents' furnishing goods a specialty. They have the confidence of the outside business world, and are growing in favor with the public. Horkey & Miller. This firm have a large establishment filled from cellar to garret with a complete assortment of general merchandise. They also have a first-class hardware establishment in connection with their store, and keep a competent tinner and manufacture their own tinware. Mr. Horkey, the senior member of the firm has had ten years' experience as manager and chief head clerk of a large wholesale and retail establishment before engaging in business on his own account, knows how to keep store and please his customers.

LIVERY, FEED AND SALE STABLES.—Buckmaster Bros. This firm have a large and commodious barn, first-class stock, good new rigs and careful drivers, are old settlers and are acquainted in every settlement in northern Nebraska. The junior member of the firm is county superintendent of public schools. W. T. March has a large establishment, first-class in every respect, does a large business, is centrally located, is a first-class business man and buys and sells grain, live stock, etc. John Dutcher. In connection with his livery stable, runs two stage lines, one from Creighton to O'Neill City and one from Creighton to Yankton; is a prompt reliable business man, always at his post ready to accommodate the public.

HOTELS.—Brown's hotel, J. T. Huff, proprietor, is first-class in every respect; new house and new furniture; is centrally located and always

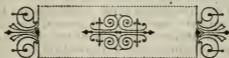
filled with guests. Creighton House, John Dutcher, proprietor, is a good quiet hotel; the table is always supplied with the best; rooms large and convenient. Good barn in connection.

DRUGS, MEDICINES, STATIONERY, ETC.—George Roberts, M. D., carries a full and complete stock of drugs, medicines, stationery, seeds, etc. The Dr. is an old settler well and favorably known throughout the county, is strictly honorable in all his dealings, so much so that he tests all seeds before selling them to his customers.

RESTAURANT.—Pratt's restaurant is a first-class establishment where warm meals can be had at all hours.

NEWSPAPER.—The *Creighton Pioneer* is a neat six-column quarto, edited by Emmet Barber, Esq. It is republican in politics devoted to the interests of Creighton and northern Nebraska, and under the management of Messrs. Barber and Blair has given entire satisfaction to its patrons and is rapidly increasing in circulation.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.—Fred Fischer occupies the entire field; is a genial, whole-souled business man, carries an immense stock, has had an experience of 15 years; purchases direct from the manufacturers and sells at bottom prices. It will not pay to bring agricultural implements from Illinois and Iowa. Fischer can and does sell as cheap as any retail dealer east or west. Farmers can find no more honorable dealer than Fischer.



ELIAS UNDERWOOD & CO.,
Real Estate and Loan Agents,
Creighton, Nebraska.

MONEY LOANED TO PROVE UP, OR FARM LOANS
MADE FOR 3 AND 5 YEARS AT 10 PER CENT
INTEREST; NO COMMISSION.

Buy and Sell Deeded Land.

HOMESTEAD AND TREE CLAIM RELINQUISHMENTS BOUGHT
AND SOLD.

*We have for sale, at low prices and on reasonable terms, 60,000
acres of improved and unimproved lands in Knox, Cedar,
Pierce and Antelope counties. Most of the above lands
are well watered, convenient to schools and markets,
are a black clay loam soil, and cannot be equaled
for quality, soil, location, and quantity of
rain-fall in the state of Nebraska.*

All letters in regard to location and price of lands promptly answered.

IF YOU WISH TO BUY OR SELL LANDS CALL ON OR ADDRESS US
BY LETTER.

ABSTRACTS FURNISHED.

TAXES PAID.

O. W. RICE,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,

U. S. COMMISSIONER AND NOTARY PUBLIC.

CREIGHTON, - NEBRASKA.



MONEY TO LOAN ON REAL ESTATE AND CHATTLE
SECURITY.

INVESTMENTS MADE FOR NON-RESIDENTS.

*SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO CONVEYANCING
AND COLLECTIONS.*

PRACTICE BEFORE THE U. S. LAND OFFICE A SPECIALTY.

New Store!

New Goods!



HORKEY & MILLER,

Wholesale and Retail

DRY GOODS,
GROCERIES, CROCKERY,
HATS, CAPS, BOOTS, SHOES,
AND Gents Furnishing Goods.



WE CARRY A FULL AND COMPLETE STOCK OF GEN-
ERAL MERCHANDISE, AND SELL AT
BOTTOM PRICES.

J. J. PHILBRICK,

FARMER'S STORE!

CONSISTS OF

Dry Goods, Notions, Boots and Shoes,
Clothing, Hats and Caps, Furnish-
ing Goods and Groceries.

CARRIES THE LARGEST LINE AND SELLS AT
LOWEST PRICES.

You can always get anything you want.

SOUTH SIDE MAIN STREET, CREIGHTON, NEBRASKA.

Livery, Sale & Boarding Stable.

Creighton, : Nebraska.

—◆—◆—◆—◆—◆—
W. T. MARCH,

Has the finest stock of

HORSES AND CARRIAGES

At lowest prices and easiest terms to be found in northern Nebraska.

—◆—◆—◆—◆—◆—
The highest prices paid at all times for

Grain, Provisions, Cattle and Hogs.

—◆—◆—◆—◆—◆—
BUTCHER SHOP IN CONNECTION.

BUY AND SELL HIDES.

FRED FISCHER,
DEALER IN
FIRST-CLASS FARM MACHINERY,
AND AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS,
CREIGHTON, : NEBRASKA.

—◆—◆—◆—◆—◆—
Iron and Wood Pumps, Sewing Ma-
chines, Etc.

WIND MILLS IN CONNECTION WITH PUMPS AND
FEED GRINDERS AS DESIRED.

—◆—◆—◆—◆—◆—
THE CELEBRATED
MOLINE FARM WAGON
CONSTANTLY ON HAND.

Parties from the East should dispose of their Farming Implements
before coming West, as new Machinery can be purchased as
cheap here as anywhere in the Union.

BROWN'S HOTEL,

J. T. HUFF, PROPRIETOR,
Creighton, : Nebraska.

—◆—◆—◆—◆—◆—
THE FINEST HOTEL IN NORTHERN NEBRASKA; CON-
TAINS TWENTY ELEGANTLY FURNISHED ROOMS
FOR THE ACCOMMODATION OF GUESTS.

Table supplied with the best the markets afford.

—◆—◆—◆—◆—◆—
Basement fitted up for Billiard Hall and furnished with three elegant
Monarch Tables, and a fine stock of choice Cigars and Liquors.

—◆—◆—◆—◆—◆—
 **Good Livery Rigs** 
In connection with the hotel.

Free Bus to and from all trains.

Everything strictly first-class.

TERMS ONLY \$2.00 PER DAY.

CITY BAKERY,

W. B. CONSER, PROPRIETOR,

CREIGHTON, : NEBRASKA.

I KEEP ON HAND CHOICE CIGARS AND TOBACCO,
CANNED GOODS, CANDIES, NUTS, ORANGES,
LEMONS, PIES, CAKES, CIDER, ETC.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE FOR CREIGHTON PRECINCT.

ALSO CONTRACTOR AND BUILDER.

Wilcox Lumber Co.,

Creighton, : Nebraska.

DEALERS IN

LUMBER, LIME, LATH, SASH, DOORS,
BLINDS, COAL, &C.

WE CARRY A LARGE STOCK, AND SELL AS CHEAP
AS ANY FIRM IN THE NORTHWEST.

F. K. BERRY, AGENT.

PRATT'S RESTAURANT,

D. PRATT, PROPRIETOR,

CREIGHTON, : NEBRASKA.

Pies, Cakes, Fresh Candies, Etc.
ALWAYS ON HAND.

OYSTERS IN EVERY STYLE.

MEALS AT ALL HOURS.

ESTABLISHED IN 1871.

Geo. W. Quimby & Co.,

SURVEYORS

REAL-ESTATE & CLAIM AGENTS,

Creighton, Nebraska.

A LARGE SELECTION OF

Farming Lands & Town Lots,

FOR SALE FOR CASH OR ON TIME.

COLLECTIONS PROMPTLY MADE.

Money loaned.

Taxes paid.

BUCKMASTER BROS.,

LIVERY & FEED STABLE

CREIGHTON,

NEBRASKA.

THE BEST RIGS IN THE NORTHWEST

CHARGES REASONABLE.

PARTIES WISHING TO LOOK UP LOCATIONS WOULD
DO WELL TO CALL ON US, AS OUR LONG RESI-
DENCE IN KNOX COUNTY HAS ENABLED US
TO BECOME THOROUGHLY ACQUAINTED
WITH ALL PARTS OF THE COUNTRY.

E. A. FRY, Proprietor.

BLAIR & BARBER, Publishers.

E. BARBER, Manager.

CREIGHTON PIONEER,

CREIGHTON, : NEBRASKA.

IS AN 8-PAGE 43-COLUMN JOURNAL, ESTABLISHED
AT NIOBRARA IN 1874 AS THE "NIOBRARA PIONEER," REMOVED TO CREIGHTON IN 1882 AND
NAME CHANGED TO "CREIGHTON PIONEER"

REPUBLICAN IN PRINCIPLE---INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS.

\$1.00 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE.

LIVERY STABLE,

JOHN DUTCHER, PROPRIETOR,

Creighton, : Nebraska.

Owner of the following mail lines:

CREIGHTON & O'NEILL CITY,

Leaves Creighton Tuesdays and Fridays at 7 A. M.; leaves O'Neill City
Wednesdays and Saturdays at 7 A. M.

CREIGHTON & YANKTON,

Leaves Creighton Tuesdays and Fridays at 7 A. M.; leaves Yankton
Wednesdays and Saturdays at 7 A. M.

PASSENGER & EXPRESS RATES REASONABLE.

ALSO PROPRIETOR OF
Creighton House.

DR. GEO. ROBERTS,
PHYSICIAN, SURGEON AND OPERATIVE DENTIST,
Will be found at the

VARIETIES!

It will surprise you to see the large stock of
DRUGS, PAINTS, OILS AND NOTIONS
our small building contains.

"For things of use and things of sport,
The gay and serious here resort."

BOOKS, STATIONERY, CHOICE CIGARS, FINE GROCERIES AND
CONFECTIONERY ALWAYS ON HAND.

CREIGHTON, : NEBRASKA.

O. W. RICE.

J. G. WILLIAMSON.

RICE & WILLIAMSON,
—REAL ESTATE AGENTS—

CREIGHTON, : NEBRASKA.

CLAIMS AND PATENTED LANDS FOR SALE ON TIME
OR FOR CASH.

OUR EXTENSIVE ACQUAINTANCE GIVES US SPECIAL OPPORTU-
NITIES FOR SECURING FARMS FOR PARTIES DESIRING
TO LOCATE OR BUY ON SPECULATION.

GEO. E. CHENEY,
PRESIDENT.

F. E. WHITE,
CASHIER.

KNOX CO. BANK,

Creighton, Nebraska.

Farm Loans Negotiated.

SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO COLLECTION

GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS TRANSACTED.

A. D. HOLBROOK,
Creighton, Neb.

B. M. FREES,
(of Kerby Carpenter Co.)
Chicago, Ill.

HOLBROOK & FREES,

The Chicago Lumber Yard,

DEALERS IN

LUMBER, SASH, DOORS, BLINDS, LIME
HAIR, CEMENT & PLASTER.

AGENTS FOR

Wyoming and Rock Springs Coal.

HORKEY & MILLER.
DEALERS IN

SHELF &



HEAVY

Hardware

PLOW & WAGON-WOOD STOCK,
IRON, STEEL, NAILS, HARD-WOOD LUMBER & BLACKSMITH COAL
BARBED WIRE A SPECIALTY.

CREIGHTON,

NEBRASKA.

CASH LOOK HERE! **CASH**

We carry a fine and well selected stock of goods, and will not
be undersold

FOR CASH!

A FULL AND COMPLETE STOCK OF "BRADLEY & METCALF'S"
CUSTOM MADE

BOOTS AND SHOES

Also "Reynold Bros." celebrated Fine Shoes for ladies.

We keep constantly on hand a full stock of

CANNED GOODS & GROCERIES.

GENTS FURNISHING GOODS A SPECIALTY.

M'CLINTOCK & WILSON, - **CREIGHTON, NEB.**

DESCRIPTIVE PAMPHLET

—OF—

KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA.



BAZILE MILLS.

EARLY HISTORY AND SETTLEMENT.

The village of Bazile Mills is situated in section 4, township 29, range 5 west, on the Bazile Creek.

The quarter section in which the village is located was filed on by Samuel D. Brooks in the fall of 1870, and he was therefore one of the first settlers in this part of the county, and was also one of the original company which located the townsite of "Mansfield," which never progressed further than a "paper town." The site included portions of Wm. Saunders' homestead and the farm now owned by Daniel Hall. Wm. Saunders followed Mr. Brooks in the spring of 1871, and work was immediately commenced in getting out timbers for the dam and frame of the Bazile Flouring and Feed Mills. S. N. Saunders and Geo. A. Brooks arrived shortly after Wm. Saunders, and became members of the mill company. These gentlemen invested all their means in the mill enterprise and in cattle, of which they had quite a large herd.

About this time the county began to receive quite an immigration boom. The Bruce colony located at Creighton the next season after Samuel Brooks, and from this time on for a year or two the settlement of the whole precinct was quite rapid, until the "hopper" scourge. This commenced in the season of 1874, and continued three consecutive years. During this time many of the old settlers became discouraged and left. Work progressed but slowly on the mill, owing partly to the scarcity of help, and also from the fact that the ravages of grasshoppers made it a matter of doubt as to whether there would ever be any grain

raised to grind when the mill should be completed. It was only finished in 1877, after several years of hard labor, under the most discouraging circumstances.

Among the old settlers who staid and battled with the "hoppers" and other adversities, are many still living in this vicinity. Among them we mention: Carl Otto, Wm. and Gotlieb Sheer, G. Hetka, Charles Lyons, C. J. Reed, Ezra Howard, Wm. Filter, Aug. Schnett, Daniel Sawyer, James Connervey, Jerome Dickson, Geo. D. Edgeton, Frank Schneider, Matt and John Wagner, and many others. Their faith was never shaken in the future prosperity of the country, though they were often nearly discouraged. These gentlemen are all in good circumstances to-day, although they had but comparatively small means when they came; in some instances only sufficient to purchase ox teams and a few farming implements. However, they were possessed of energy, which, after all, is the principal capital necessary in this country to get along, and without which it is up hill work to get along anywhere.

In the early part of 1878 Messrs. Samuel D. and Geo. A. Brooks put in a small stock of General Merchandise, occupying a room in the mill for a few months, but their business immediately growing to greater proportions than they had expected, they built the store building now occupied by Messrs. Filter, Hammond & Co., which has been enlarged to its present dimensions to give room for their growing business.

With the completion of the mill came a large immigration, and since that time the settlement of Creighton Precinct has been rapid; the settlers being of an industrious and desirable class. Many of the settlers in the immediate vicinity of Bazile Mills came here from the New England and Middle states, and from our sister state Iowa. We have also a goodly number of German, Norwegian, Swedish and Danish citizens, all good law-abiding, intelligent and industrious people.

Since the completion of the Sioux City & Pacific railroad, two years ago, the increase in price of land has been steady and very gratifying. Lands now range from \$5.00 to \$10.00 per acre, according to location and improvements. There is but little government land left in the precinct, although an occasional quarter section may be taken. In the eastern part of the precinct is a large tract of land known as "speculator's lands," which are generally held at from \$5.00 to \$7.00 per acre for raw prairie. The soil is generally of a clay sub-soil, very fertile and productive when subdued.

WATER.

The East and West branches of the Bazile Creek flows through a great portion of Creighton precinct, and emptying into these are numerous tributary springs and creeks, affording good facilities for stock-raising. At Bazile Mills is one of the finest water-powers in the state. One and a half miles below the village is located the Pioneer Woolen Mills, owned by Geo. A. Brooks & Co. There are also numerous other good water-powers at different points on the creek, and eventually it is sure to be dotted with other manufacturing industries. Good well-water is found all over the precinct at from 20 to 60 feet. Probably about 30 feet is the average depth of wells throughout the precinct. The water, generally, is quite soft, there being little or no alkali in the county.

SOIL AND PRODUCTS.

The soil of Creighton precinct is generally of a clay sub-soil, which runs from 3 to 40 feet in depth, or of a sandy loam. All small grains grow well, with the exception of wheat, which usually produces only about 10 bushels per acre. Barley, oats, flax, etc., do as well in this vicinity as anywhere in the west. Corn is the principal crop, and is every

year increasing in the quantity produced, as the lands become subdued and worked. Potatoes and all kinds of roots and vegetables grow luxuriantly, as do small fruits. Many orchards have been set out within the last few years, and where they have been fenced and protected from stock give promise of eventually becoming a paying investment.

—♦—♦—♦—♦—♦—

BAZILE MILLS BUSINESS HOUSES.

GENERAL MERCHANDISE.—Filter, Hammond & Co., successors to Geo. A. Brooks & Co. This is the oldest established general merchandising house in the town. It was established in 1878 by the Brooks Brothers. With the death of Samuel Brooks in January 1880, Geo. A. Brooks succeeded to the business, and August C. Filter was shortly after taken in as partner, under the firm name of Geo. A. Brooks & Co. In January of this year (1883), Filter, Hammond & Co. succeeded this firm. The house does a very large business, and carries an immense stock. Henry Mecke has the only other general store in the town. He carries a select stock and does a good business.

HARDWARE.—Saunders Bros., dealers in all kinds of shelf and heavy hardware. This firm engaged in business three years ago, and are doing a thriving business. Their growing trade has necessitated the construction of a more commodious store-building, which they will shortly occupy.

DRUGS AND MEDICINES, AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, ETC.—A. McGill carries a very complete stock. He is one of the oldest merchants in the place, and has a large and constantly increasing trade. Mr. McGill is thoroughly conversant with all branches of his business, and supplies the wants of all desiring articles in his line, at reasonable prices.

FURNITURE, ETC.—Henry W. Gardner carries a large stock of excellent furniture, picture frames, mottoes pictures, mirrors, notions, and other articles usually found in a first-class furniture establishment. He is a practical workman, puts together his own goods, and is consequently enabled to sell at close figures.

BLACKSMITHING, ETC.—Isaac Twining attends to the wants of all desiring a good job in his line. He is an excellent workman, and enjoys a lucrative trade.

BOOT AND SHOE MAKER.—C. W. Simpkins is a first-class workman, and has all he can do to keep up with his work. Mr. S. is also a justice of the peace for Creighton Precinct, and administers justice to saint and sinner alike.

HOTEL.—Brooks House, Geo. W. Harper, proprietor. Mr. Harper is an excellent landlord, and keeps a splendid House at reasonable charges. A good stable in connection.

FLOUR AND FEED MILL.—Bazile Mill Company, proprietors. This mill is one of the largest in Northern Nebraska, and enjoys the reputation of making A No. 1 grade of flour, etc. It has five run of buhrs.

PORK PACKING.—Geo. A. Brooks & Co., proprietors. This establishment was erected last summer, and has this season killed over one thousand hogs. The house has a killing capacity of 300 per day, and hereafter will figure as one of, if not the largest producing establishment in the west. It is fitted out with all the latest improvements in this line of business.

SPRING LAKE CREAMERY.—Geo. A. Brooks, proprietor. This house was built last summer, and is one of the institutions of the town. It enjoys a good reputation.

SALOON.—O. S. Quimby, proprietor. Mr. Q. runs an orderly establishment; the only one in the village.

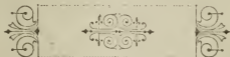
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON.—Dr. A. L. Clarké is a graduate of Bellevue

Medical College, New York City, and enjoys a large and lucrative practice. He has had remarkable success here, both as physician and surgeon, and his practice extends all over this county and into adjoining counties.

NEWSPAPER AND JOB PRINTING OFFICE.—*The Knox County Times*, C. A. Hammond, Manager. *The Times* was established in June, 1881, and has a large circulation at home and abroad. The low price at which the paper is placed puts it within the reach of all. Straight Republican in politics, though its columns are open to discussions from all parties.

LIVERY STABLE.—Isaac Peed has a large stable in Bazile Mills, and a number of fine rigs.

PIONEER WOOLEN MILL.—Geo. A. Brooks & Co., proprietors. The first woolen mill erected in Nebraska. The mill manufactures a fine grade of yarn, and will this season commence the manufacture of woolen goods. The mill is located one and a half miles below the village of Bazile Mills.



SPRING LAKE CREAMERY,



BAZILE MILLS, NEBRASKA.

Geo. A. Brooks & Co., Propr's.

MANUFACTURERS OF BUTTER

HIGHEST PRICE PAID FOR BUTTER.

WILLIAM SAUNDERS,

DEALER IN ALL KINDS OF

Shelf and Heavy Hardware,



AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, ETC.

BAZILE MILLS, NEBRASKA.

A. MCGILL,

DEALER IN

DRUGS AND MEDICINES,

BOOKS AND STATIONERY,

JEWELRY, MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS AND SEWING MACHINES.

Also Farm Machinery of every description.

BAZILE MILLS, : : NEBRASKA.

PIONEER WOOLEN MILLS,

BAZILE MILLS, NEB.

Geo. A. Brooks & Co., Proprietors.

MANUFACTURERS OF

YARN AND WOOLEN GOODS.



THE HIGHEST PRICE PAID FOR WOOL.



POST-OFFICES.

ADDISOX.—Is in the eastern part of the county and is supplied by a special mail route from Sweden, and is near a broken tract of land known as the "Devil's Nest" that is not tillable, but affords an excellent range for cattle and sheep, contains considerable timber and abounds in springs of pure, soft water. Desirable locations can be found in the neighborhood.

ARTHUR.—Is situated southwest of Niobrara on the Verdigris creek on the Oakdale and Niobrara stage road, James Bruce, postmaster. The land is rolling, soil black loam with clay sub soil; some timber in the ravines and along the river. Good locations can be obtained in the neighborhood.

ARMSTRONG.—Is west of Niobrara on the O'Neill City and Niobrara stage road, J. L. Armstrong, postmaster; soil, rich loam; high table lands that produces excellent crops; good water and timber convenient. A great many excellent claims can be found in this vicinity.

BAZILE MILLS.—See description.

BLYVILLE.—Is in the eastern part of the county, on the Creighton and Yankton stage road, Geo. W. Bly postmaster. Mr. B.'s farm of 600 acres is one of the most beautiful and attractive places in the country and shows what can be accomplished in Knox county by a small outlay of money and a reasonable amount of energy. Here can be found splendid groves of Walnut trees just bearing fruit, only six years old. Soft maple, cottonwood, cedar, pine and apple trees all tastily arranged, where a few years since all was a vast, unbroken prairie. The land is high prairie, soil exceptionably good; good farms can be obtained in this thrifty and intelligent neighborhood on reasonable terms.

CLINE.—This office is west of Niobrara on the O'Neill and Niobrara stage road, Samuel Cline, postmaster, who also deals in general merchandise; high table land; soil of excellent quality; good water in abundance. Excellent claims can be found in this vicinity.

CREIGHTON.—See description.

DURKOVILLE.—Is west of Niobrara on the Niobrara and Keya Paha stage road, Wenzel Diez, postmaster; is located on the south bank of the Niobrara river; is surrounded by thrifty German farmers, who, by industry and economy have made fine farms and raised large herds of stock, and are all in good circumstances. Good claims can be found on the prairie adjacent to this settlement.

HERRICK.—Is located on the Niobrara and Yankton stage road in the northeast part of the county, adjacent to the Herrick timber. J. L. Clark, postmaster, who is also engaged in general merchandising. Nearly all the bottom land in the vicinity of Herrick is heavily timbered with cottonwood; two saw mills are located in the timber and furnish cottonwood lumber of all kinds at reasonable prices. The land in the vicinity of Herrick is somewhat broken. The soil is very productive and the farmers in the neighborhood are the most successful and thrifty in the county. Good farms can be purchased in the settlement at very reasonable rates.

KEMMA.—Is on the east branch of the Bazile creek, in the southeast part of the county, on the Creighton and Yankton stage road; here are beautiful bottom lands and high rolling prairie that produces all kinds of grain and hay. North and east of this settlement are thousands of acres of excellent land that are included in the so-called Santee reservation that will soon be opened for actual settlers under the homestead, pre-emption and timber culture laws. Good claims can be obtained in

the neighborhood.

KNOXVILLE.—Is located in the western part of the county on the O'Neill and Niobrara stage road, W. A. Strain, postmaster, is the center of one of the newest settlements in the county; on high table land; the settlement is in a flourishing condition and is rapidly increasing in numbers. There is still room for dozens of families in the neighborhood. Good claims of government land can be obtained by bonafide settlers.

MILLERBORO.—Is situated on section 32, township 29, range 6 west, J. M. Miller, postmaster. Was first settled by J. M. and John S. Miller, in the fall of 1872, and from that time settlement has been rapid, save during the grass-hopper period. The surrounding country is now thickly populated by thrifty and energetic farmers. The soil is a black sandy loam with a lime-stone clay sub-soil. Soft water can be obtained at a depth of about 25 feet. The Presbyterian society has a fine church 28x48, cost about \$2,100, with Rev. E. H. Emerson as pastor.

NIOBRARA.—See description.

PISCHELVILLE.—Is west of Niobrara on the Niobrara and Keya Paha stage road on the beautiful bottom land of the Niobrara river, Anton Pischel postmaster, who also deals in general merchandise. The neighborhood is settled almost entirely by Bohemians who have fine, well tilled farms and large herds of cattle that have been accumulated in a very few years. The land is level bottom along the Niobrara river and on the south high rolling prairie which produces excellent crops and an abundance of hay; plenty of cottonwood timber is found on the islands of the Niobrara river, and in the ravines and along the small tributaries of the Niobrara. Desirable claims can be obtained in the neighborhood. A good water power flouring mill, supplied with all the modern machinery, owned by Vincent Jilek is located on Steel Creek, two miles southwest of Pischelville.

PLUM VALLEY.—Is located on the Bazile Creek, in the central part of the county, G. W. Sawyer, postmaster. As its name indicates, it is located in a rich fertile valley abounding in meadows and large groves of hardwood timber. The land adjacent to the valley is high, rolling prairie and well adapted to grazing; numerous spring branches afford an abundance of water for stock.

SANTEE AGENCY.—Is located near the Missouri river on the Niobrara and Yankton stage road, J. H. Barker, postmaster, also licensed trader for the agency. This point is the headquarters for the agency which contains a total population of about 600 souls. Two large commodious churches are located here. Also two boarding schools under the management of the Episcopal and Congregational churches, also an industrial school supported by the government. The Indians are well educated, quite intelligent and industrious; are taking homesteads and improving them, and are successful farmers; are good, peaceable neighbors. They have occupied this reservation since 1866, and have never had any difficulty with their white neighbors, but very few cases of a criminal character has occurred in the tribe for the past fifteen years; in this respect their record compares favorably with any community in the state. 116,000 acres of land was withdrawn from market for their benefit. They are now taking homesteads the same as white settlers, the balance of the land will be opened for settlement in the near future, probably during the present year; about 80,000 acres of the finest lands in northern Nebraska, surrounded by thrifty settlements and possessing all the advantages of older settled neighborhoods can be obtained by actual settlers, under the homestead and pre-emption laws.

SPARTA.—Is twelve miles south of Niobrara on the Niobrara and Creighton stage road, Neal Walters, postmaster; is the center of a new

and thrifty settlement. The land is high rolling prairie; rich loam soil with clay sub-soil that produces excellent crops of all kinds. Good claims can be obtained in this settlement.

SWIDEX.—Is in the eastern part of the county on the Creighton and Yankton stage road, Ole Ruden postmaster; rolling prairie land, rich loam soil, pure soft water and excellent schools. Settlers are industrious and thrifty. Plenty of land can be obtained at very reasonable prices. Being only eight miles from the Herrick timber, wood and lumber are convenient and cheap.

TALNOT.—Is a new office on the Creighton and Yankton stage road, on high rolling prairie. This settlement is new and small in numbers, but is a beautiful location. Good deeded land can be purchased in this neighborhood at very reasonable rates.

VENTS.—Is located on the Knoxville and Ford stage road, S. L. Whittemore postmaster. The surrounding country is beautiful level prairie equal in all respects to any in the state. Good claims can be obtained in this very desirable neighborhood.

VERDIGRIS BRIDGE.—Is on the Niobrara and Oakdale stage road, on the Verdigris creek, Lorenzo Richling, postmaster. The surrounding country is rolling prairie, and is being rapidly settled by a thrifty, industrious class of people. Good locations can yet be obtained in this section of Knox county.

VERDIGRIS VALLEY.—Is located on the Niobrara and Oakdale stage road, and on the Verdigris creek, in the center of a rich, fertile valley, Mat. Paylik, postmaster. This settlement is composed almost entirely of Bohemians, who have splendid farms under a high state of cultivation, and large herds of cattle, all of which has been accumulated during the past six years.

WALNUT GROVE.—Is located on the Knoxville and Ford stage road, Walker Chrisman, postmaster, who also deals in general merchandise. The surrounding country is rolling, timbered prairie, the soil highly productive, producing excellent crops of wheat, oats, corn, barley and rye. The surrounding country is settled by thrifty, industrious American farmers; good school and church privileges are afforded in the neighborhood. A good grist mill owned by Messrs. Bright & Adler is located on a branch of the Verdigris just across the west line of Knox county; about six miles from Walnut Grove; also deal in general merchandise. Good claims can be obtained in this neighborhood.

WEIGAND.—Is a new office located on the Niobrara and Yankton stage road, George Leonard Weigand, postmaster. This is one of the most beautiful and picturesque locations in northern Nebraska. Mr. Weigand's farm contains over 1,600 acres diversified by hill and valley, forest and prairie, interspersed with numerous spring branches of pure, soft water. A large, substantial farm residence and commodious sheds for his large herds of horses, cattle and sheep are located in the center of this fine estate. Nearly all of this property has been accumulated by Mr. Weigand, by farming and stock-raising since 1862, when he located on his homestead. John Buhrow, Chas. Mischke, C. H. Root, Justus Loener and others have first-class farms in the immediate vicinity of this neighborhood and illustrate what can be accomplished in a few years on a Knox county farm by industry and economy.

WELCH.—This postoffice is situated on the Niobrara and Keya Paha stage road near the west line of the county, on the Niobrara river, Anton Koenig postmaster. The land is level bottom on the river and high table land to the south. Plenty of cottonwood timber is found, and hard-wood timber in the ravines and along the spring branches tributary to the Niobrara river.

GOVERNMENT LAND LAWS.

THE AGRICULTURAL LANDS

are divided into two classes, one at \$1.25 per acre, designated as minimum, lying outside of railroad limits; the other at \$2.50 per acre as double minimum, lying within railroad limits. Titles are acquired by purchase at public sale, by ordinary "private entry" and in virtue of the pre-emption, homestead, timber culture and other laws. Purchases at public sale are made when lands are "offered" at public auction to the highest bidder by proclamation of the president or by order of the general land office. Lands so offered and not sold, and not since reserved or withdrawn from the market, can be secured by "private entry" or location.

But none of the lands in Northern Nebraska have ever been "offered" at public sale, all having been reserved for homesteads, pre-emptions and tree claims on account of their agricultural value, and because this system is more in accordance with the interest of the masses, and not for speculators, as under the public sale system. Sioux half-breed scrip can be used to purchase any surveyed land, but very little of this scrip is now outstanding. Soldiers' additional homestead entries can also be purchased and laid upon any surveyed land, thus acquiring title without residence thereon.

PRE-EMPTIONS.

Heads of families, widows or single persons (male or female), over the age of twenty-one years, citizens of the United States or who have declared their intention to become such under the naturalization laws, may enter upon any "offered" and "unoffered" lands or any unsurveyed lands to which the Indian title is extinguished, and purchase not exceeding 160 acres under pre-emption laws. After making settlement, if on "offered" land the applicant must file his declaratory statement with the district land office within thirty days, for which a fee of \$2.00 is required and within one year from date of settlement make final proof entry of his actual residence on and cultivation of the tract, and pay therefor at \$1.25 per acre if outside of railroad limits, and he may pay in cash or by military bounty, land warrants, agricultural college, private claim or supreme court scrip.

When the tract has been surveyed and not "offered" land the claimant must file his or her declaratory statement, and make proof and payment within thirty-three months from date of settlement. Settlement is the first thing to be done under the pre-emption laws.

When settlements are made on unsurveyed lands, settlers are required to file their declaratory statements within three months after the date of the receipt at the district land office, of the approved plat of the township embracing their claims, and make proof and payment within thirty months from the expiration of said three months, payments the same as in case of offered land.

Pre-emptors may submit proofs of residence and improvements at any time after six months of actual residence. He must show by his own testimony and by two credible witnesses such actual residence and cultivation—a habitable dwelling and other improvements, to the satisfaction of the land officers that the spirit of the law has been complied with.

At any time before the expiration of the time allowed for proof and payment the settler may, by making proper application at the land office and payment of the required fee, convert his claim into a homestead, and the time he has resided upon the land is credited on homestead residence if he desires. No person who abandons his residence on his own land to reside on public land in the same state or territory or who owns

320 acres of land is entitled to the benefits of the pre-emption laws. It is held, however, that this does not apply to a house and lot in town. Claims cannot be transferred until title is perfected. The second filing of a declaratory statement, by any pre-emptor, when first filing was legal in all respects, is prohibited. Before proof and payment on pre-emption claims, written notice must be given by the claimants to the register, who must post a notice in his office and cause the same to be published in a newspaper nearest the land for at least thirty days, as in case of homesteads.

HOMESTEADS.

Any person who is the head of a family or who has arrived at the age of twenty-one years, and is a citizen of the United States or has filed his declaration or intention to become such is entitled to enter one-quarter section or less quantity of unappropriated land under the homestead laws. The applicant must make an affidavit that he is over the age of twenty-one or is the head of a family and that he is a citizen of the United States or has declared his intention to become such, and that the entry is made for his exclusive use and benefit and for actual settlement and cultivation, and must pay the legal fee and that part of the commissions required to be paid when entry is made, as follows:

"When within railroad limits, for 160 acres, for \$10, commission \$8; for eighty acres, fee \$5, commission \$4. Outside of railroad limits, fee \$10, commission \$4, and in proportion for eighty or forty acres. When these requirements are complied with the Receiver issues his receipt in duplicate and the matter is entered upon the records of the office. After faithful observance of the law in regard to actual settlement and cultivation for the continuous term of five years, at the expiration of that term or within two years thereafter, final proof must be made, and, if satisfactory to the land officers, that part of the commissions remaining unpaid (the same in amount so paid on entry) must be paid. The register then issues his certificate and makes proper returns to the general land office as the basis of a patent.

Any settler desiring to make final proof must first file with the register a written notice of his intention, describing the land and giving the names of four witnesses by whom the facts as to settlement, continuous residence, cultivation, etc., are to be established. This notice must be accompanied by a deposit of money sufficient to pay the cost of publishing the notice which the register is required to publish for thirty days (five times) in a newspaper designated by him, or arrange with the publisher of the paper therefor. Notice is also posted in the land office for the same period.

Final proof cannot be made until the expiration of five years from the date of entry, and must be made within two years thereafter. In making final proof the homestead settler may appear in person at the district land office with his witnesses and there make the affidavit and proof required, or he may, if by reason of bodily infirmity or distance, it is inconvenient for him to appear at the land office with his witnesses, appear before the judge of a court of record of the county and the State, or district and territory in which the land is situated, and there make final proof. When a homestead settler dies before he can prove up, the widow, or in case of her death, her heirs may continue settlement and obtain title upon requisite proof at the proper time. In case of death of both parents, leaving infant children, the homestead may be sold for cash for the benefit of the children, and purchaser will receive title.

The sale of a homestead claim to another party before completion of title is not recognized. In making final proof the settler must swear

that no part of the land has been alienated except for church, cemetery, or school purposes, or right of way of railroad.

Homestead claims may be relinquished, but in such cases the land reverts to the government. If a settler does not wish to remain five years on his tract, he may pay for it, as under pre-emption law, in cash or warrants at any time after six months of actual residence. This proof must be made before the district officers. Homesteaders are allowed six months after entry to commence improvements and establish residence.

The law allows but one homestead privilege to any one person.

Every person who served not less than ninety days in the army or navy of the United States during "the recent rebellion" who was honorably discharged and remained loyal to the government, may enter a homestead, and the time of his service shall be deducted from the period of five years, provided that the party shall reside upon and cultivate his homestead at least one year after he commences improvements. The widow of a soldier, or, if she be dead or has married again, the minor heirs, if any, may, through their guardian, make a homestead entry, and if the soldier died in service, the whole term of his enlistment will be credited upon the term of required residence. Soldiers and sailors as above may file a homestead declaratory statement for 160 acres of land through an agent, after which they have six months to file their homestead. This latter entry must be made in person. Thus a soldier who desires to secure a claim may do so by sending a power of attorney and certified copy of his discharge to some responsible party who can file for him upon the land selected. Lands acquired under the homestead laws are not liable for any debt contracted prior to the issuing of the patent therefor.

TREE CLAIMS.

Under the timber culture laws not more than 160 acres on any one section, entirely devoid of timber, can be entered and no person can make more than one entry thereunder.

The qualifications of applicants are the same as under the pre-emption and homestead laws. The land office charges are, for 160 acres or more than 80 acres, \$14 when entry is made and \$4 when final proof is made. For 80 acres or less \$9 at entry and \$4 at final proof. The applicant must make affidavit that the land specified in his application is exclusively prairie, or other land devoid of timber, that his filing and entry is for the cultivation of timber for his exclusive use and benefit; that the application is made in good faith and not for the purpose of speculation, or directly or indirectly for the use or benefit of any other person or persons; that he intends to hold and cultivate the land and comply with the laws, and that he has not previously made an entry under the timber culture laws.

The party making an entry of a quarter section is required to break or plow five acres covered thereby during the first year, and five acres in addition during the second year. The five acres broken or plowed during the first year he is required to cultivate by raising a crop, or otherwise, during the second year, and to plant, in timber, seeds or cuttings during the fourth year. For entries of less than 160 acres the amount of land to be cultivated must be pro rata. Provision is made for extension of time in case drought or grasshoppers destroy trees. These trees he must cultivate and protect, and if, at the expiration of eight years from date of entry, or within five years thereafter, the entrant, or, if he be dead, his heirs shall prove, by two credible witnesses, the planting, cultivating and protecting the timber for not less than eight years, and that there were at the end of eight years, at

least 675 living, thrifty trees on each of the ten acres required to be planted, he or they will be entitled to a patent. It should be added that in making final proof it must be shown "not less than twenty-seven hundred trees were planted to each acre." Fruit trees are not considered timber in regard to cultivation of an entry under this act.

It is not necessary that the ten acres should be in a compact body.

Failure to comply with any of the requirements of the law at any time after one year from date of entry renders such entry liable to contest. And upon due proof of such failure the entry will be cancelled. No land under this law will in any event become liable to the satisfaction of any debt or debts contracted prior to the issuing of the final certificate therefor.

COMMENTARY.

Declaratory statements, (erroneously called pre-emptions) homesteads and tree claims, can be filed through the clerks of district courts.

Final proofs can be made, contests initiated and heard without the parties thereto being compelled to appear before the U. S. land office, and in fact all business pertaining to government lands can be transacted by the said clerk of the district court the same as at the land office.

HOMESTEADS.

When homestead applications are made through the clerk of the district court, the applicant must be at the time actually residing upon the land to be entered, and must have bona fide improvements thereon; if homestead entries be made at the land office, applicants have six months from date of entry within which to establish residence and commence improvements on the land.

DECLARATORY STATEMENTS.

Land embraced in "declaratory statements" must be improved before application is made, which application can be made at any time within three months from date of such improvement or settlement. The present Secretary of the Interior has decided that a declaratory statement made before the tract has been settled upon and improved by applicant is void.

CHANGE OF ENTRY.

Sometimes an error is made in the description of a tract of land, either by the party himself or the person who makes out the papers, etc., etc., whereby the entry describes lands different from that intended to have been entered and different from that improved; in such cases the general land office at Washington upon proper application, accompanied by affidavit setting forth the facts, will consider such, and if they deem the evidence to be sufficient, allow the entry to be amended or changed. But a party who neglects to examine the character of land entered by him must suffer the consequences. He cannot be allowed to make another entry.

UNSURVEYED LANDS.

Persons who settle on unsurveyed lands are allowed three months from date of the receipt of the plats embracing their claims, at the district land office, to file their homesteads or declaratory statements, and their time relates back to date of settlement; hence a party can make final proof for his land as soon as the plat is received at the local land office and his entry is registered, provided that he has occupied the land for six months.

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DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF

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C. A. HAMMOND, MANAGER.

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SECRETARY-TREASURER
MRS. CLARENCE S. PAINE
STATION B
LINCOLN 2, NEBRASKA

Dec. 17, 1944

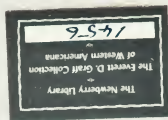
Mr. E.G.Graff,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Mr. Graff:

I do regret that I cannot give you information regarding the Knox County pamphlet. We do not have it in the Historical Society Library and I find no record of such a pamphlet in any library in Lincoln.

Sincerely yours,

Clara S. Paine



December 7, 1944

My dear Mrs. Paine:

Your son, Clarence, and I meet occasionally at the dinners of the Westerners, and I understand from him that you remember a visit that Mr. Howes and I paid to Lincoln several years ago.

Having a little problem in connection with a piece of Nebraska material, I am taking the liberty of asking you if you can help me. The piece in question is entitled, "Descriptive Pamphlet of Knox County, Neb." and was published at Niobrara, Nebraska by Santee & Hill in March 1883. I assume that the Historical Society must have a copy of this pamphlet, the pages of which are unnumbered, but it must have 30 or 40 leaves including advertising.

The point that bothers me is that on the wrapper there is a statement "With Accurate Map." No map is to be found in the copy I have and there is no indication that a map has ever been present. Could you help me by telling me whether there should be a map?

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Paine
Nebraska Historical Society
University Library
Lincoln, Nebraska